Processing capacity for fruits and vegetables

†3389. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the processing capacity in the Food Processing Industries in the country has increased during the last four years;

(b) for how much percentage of the production, the processing capacity existed in March, 1998; and

(c) how much was this capacity at the end of year 2000-2001?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (PROF. CHAMAN LAL GUPTA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The percentage of installed capacity of Fruits & Vegetables processing units licensed under Fruit Products Order (FPO), 1955 to total production of fruits & vegetables in the country for the year 1997-98 was under 2%.

(c) The installed capacity for units licensed under Fruit Products Order, 1955 as on 1st January, 2001 is 21 lakh tonnes.

Food Processing Programmes in NER

3390. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state the implementation status of on-going programmes for food processing in the NER and the specific action plan, if any, taken up to be implemented in the Region, being a potential area?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (PROF. CHAMAN LAL GUPTA): The Ministry of Food Processing Industries provides financial assistance through its plan schemes in the form of grant-in-aid to Private Sector Industries, Non-Governmental Organizations, Cooperatives, Public/Joint/Assisted Sector Undertakings, Human Resource Development Institutions, Research & Development Ins .utions etc., for development of the Processed Food Sector. A higher quantum of assistance is provided for difficult areas which include North Eastern States including Sikkim. Against a requirement of spending at least 10% of its plan outlay in the North Eastern Region, the Ministry has spent on an average 19% of total outlay during 1998-99 to 2000-2001. A total of 53 projects have been assisted in the North Eastern Region during 1998-1999 to 2000-2001.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

The Government has launched a Technology Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture in North East including Sikkim. One of the components under the Technology Mission (Mini-Mission-IV), relates to promotion of new units, upgradation and modernization of existing units and promotional activities.

Employment through labour intensive technology in FPIs

†3391. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there are potentials for creating maximum employment opportunities in the Food Processing Industries by encouraging labour-intensive technology; if so, Government's reaction in this regard;

(b) the institutes entrusted with exploring such technology during the last three years;

(c) the status of research undertaken by those institutes; and

(d) what facilities Government had decided to give to that industry to encourage the use of labour-intensive technology, during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (PROF. CHAMAN LAL GUPTA): (a) As per the Report of the Annual Survey of Industries 1997-98, employment in Food Processing Industries was 38,784 for investment of Rs. 1000 crores, which is comparatively higher than that in (i) heavy industry and (ii) agriculture and allied industries.

(b) The following Institutions among others, who had developed labour intensive technology in different sectors of Food Processing have been assisted under this Ministry's Plan Scheme.

1. Central Institute of Fisheries Technology (CIFT), Kochi. (Fisheries)
2. Central Food Technological Research Institute (CFTRI), Mysore. (Pulse Milling)
3. Indian Veterinary Research Institute (IVRI), Izatnagar, Uttar Pradesh. (Meat & Poultry)

(c) The CIFT had developed labour intensive technology for:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.